

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01959 052043Z

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ACTION IO-13

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7334

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TAGS: UN, 60TH ECOSOC, SWEL, GT

SUBJECT: 60TH ECOSOC: GUATEMALA ASSISTANCE

REF: A) USUN 1902 B) STATE 108558

1. REPRODUCED AS PARA 6 IS OFFICIAL ENGLISH VERSION OF
DRAFT RES E/L.1711 CIRCULATED AT MAY 5TH PLENARY SESSION.
DEBATE ON THIS ITEM AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTER MATTERS
WILL RESUME AFTERNOON OF MAY 6TH, AND WILL PROBABLY CON-
CLUDE AT THAT SESSION.

2. REVISED ENGLISH VERSION DELETES REFERENCE TO UNDRO
(REFTEL B, PARA 1(A)), AND HAS SOMEWHAT SOFTER
LANGUAGE REGARDING REQUIREMENTS OF UN SYSTEM RESPONSE
TO GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTS. (NEW LANGUAGE READS
"... FOR THE PURPOSE OF SATISFYING REQUESTS MADE TO THEM
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA WITH A VIEW TO PLANNING
AND IMPLEMENTING SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR NATIONAL RECONSTRUC-
TION.")

3. WITH REGARD TO OPERATIVE PARA 5, "EXTRAORDINARY
ASSISTANCE" IS NOW TRANSLATED AS "SPECIAL TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE", AND "ENABLE" IS RETAINED.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 01959 052043Z

4. OPERATIVE PARA 6 IS CHANGED FROM "CONVEYS ITS DESIRE"

TO "EXPRESSES THE DESIRE", AND IN LIEU OF "FAVORABLY
RESOLVED" TEXT NOW READS THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS "... WILL ACT FAVORABLY" ON GOG ASSISTANCE
REQUESTS.

5. AS INDICATED IN RES, SEVERAL COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE
LATIN AMERICAN REGION ARE ALREADY CO-SPONSORS, AND
OTHER MAJOR DONORS, IN ADDITION TO CANADA, APPEAR READY
TO BECOME CO-SPONSORS. WHILE WE WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS
TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSED CHANGES PER REFTEL B,
THERE IS NO GREAT LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS. GIVEN OUR ROLE
AS PRIMARY CONTRIBUTOR, IN THE GUATEMALA RELIEF EFFORT,
THE LIMITED REAL EFFECT THE CURRENT LANGUAGE WILL HAVE
ON ACTUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO GUATEMALA, WE WOULD
RECOMMEND JOINING AS CO-SPONSORS AFTER MAKING EVERY EF-
FORT TO OBTAIN LANGUAGE MODIFICATIONS PROPOSED REF.B.

6. QUOTE THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
OBSERVING WITH DEEP SORROW AND CONCERN THAT EARTHQUAKES
OF UNPRECEDENTED INTENSITY HAVE RECENTLY CAUSED SERIOUS LOSS
OF LIFE AND PROPERTY IN EXTENSIVE AREAS OF GUATEMALA,
MINDFUL OF THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
AND BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE IN THE RELIEF
WORK ORGANIZED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF INTERNATIONAL
SOLIDARITY EMBODIED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
OBSERVING FURTHER THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE DEATH AND INJURY
SUFFERED BY THOUSANDS OF PERSONS, GRAVE DAMAGE HAS BEEN SUSTAINED
BY THE GUATEMALAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMY,
AWARE THAT, FOLLOWING THE EMERGENCY RELIEF EFFORT, A
SECOND PHASE OF RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION WILL HAVE
TO BE INITIATED AT ENORMOUS COST,
RECALLING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1803
(LV) OF 7 AUGUST 1973 CONCERNING ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF
NATURAL DISASTER AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS,
RECALLING FURTHER THE DECISION OF 31 MARCH 1976 OF THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL FUND, WHICH
PROVIDED THAT GUATEMALA SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF
"MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES" IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER
X OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3202 (S-VI),

1. EXPRESSES ITS DEEP SORROW TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT
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PAGE 03 USUN N 01959 052043Z

OF GUATEMALA AT THE LOSS OF LIFE AND THE DAMAGE CAUSED TO
THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE ECONOMY BY THE EARTHQUAKES OF 4
AND 6 FEBRUARY 1976;

2. NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL (E/5796) AND THE STATEMENT BY THE UNITED NATIONS
DISASTER RELIEF CO-ORDINATOR CONCERNING THE EMERGENCY AID
PROVIDED TO GUATEMALA BOTH BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
AND BY ITS MEMBER STATES;

3. NOTES FURTHER WITH SATISFACTION THE REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA ON "THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE EARTHQUAKE" IN GUATEMALA AND ITS REPERCUSSIONS ON THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT" (CEPAL/MEX/76/GUAT.1);

4. URGES THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, IN PARTICULAR UNESCO, WHO, FAO AND UNICEF, OTHER APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMMES, SUCH AS THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME, AND THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA TO ALLOCATE THE MOST EXTENSIVE POSSIBLE FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL AND OTHER RESOURCES IN RESPONSE TO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF (SATISFYING) REQUESTS MADE TO THEM BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA WITH A VIEW TO PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION;

5. REQUESTS IN PARTICULAR THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, AT ITS TWENTY-SECOND SESSION, TO TAKE URGENT STEPS TO PROVIDE SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, BY MEANS OF THE DECELERATED PROCEDURE ALREADY ESTABLISHED, SO AS TO (ENABLE) THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA TO CARRY OUT THE PROCESS OF NATIONAL REHABILITATION;

6. EXPRESSES THE DESIRE RECOMMEND THAT THE (WORLD BANK) AND ALL OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, WILL GIVE URGENT CONSIDERATION TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA IN CONNEXION WITH ITS PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS FOR NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF A MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM NATURE, AND WILL ACT FAVOURABLY ON THEM UNDER TERMS AND ARRANGEMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE SERIOUS ECONOMIC SITUATION IN WHICH THAT COUNTRY NOW FINDS ITSELF.
UNQUOTE
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